

Wing Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

Public Health and Sanitary Condition

FOR THE YEAR

1919,

BY

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TO THE
Rural District Council
OF
W I N G .

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1919. As you are aware, copies of it have to be sent to the Ministry of Health. The population as estimated by the Registrar General is 5,513.

BIRTHS.

85 births were recorded during the year, 82 being legitimate and 3 illegitimate. The birth rate is 14.8 per 1,000, the rate for England and Wales in 1919 being 18.5 per 1,000.

DEATHS.

59 deaths were registered in the district; in addition to these 14 residents died elsewhere.

The death rate for the year is 13.2 per 1,000, the death rate during 1919 for England and Wales being 13.8 per 1,000.

2 deaths were children under one year. The infant mortality (or rate per 1,000 births) was 23.5. For England and Wales the deaths of infants under one year of age were 89 per 1,000.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

DIPHTHERIA.

There were two cases of diphtheria notified during the year. The first case was a girl aged 7 at Grove. She had been going to school daily to the town. There were no other cases in the district. It was a severe case when seen and as there was plenty of room for isolation in the house, the parents decided to have it treated at home and had a fever nurse. The case did well, making a good recovery, although the convalescence was somewhat protracted. No other cases occurred in the house.

The next case was notified from a large house used as a summer residence by London people. It was from the district of Barley End, in Pitstone, on the boundary of the county. She was a woman of 45. She was not removed to Grove hospital, and made a good recovery. It was evidently an imported case.

SCARLET FEVER.

During the year two cases of scarlet fever occurred in the district. On May 5th a boy aged $8\frac{1}{2}$ was notified from Cheddington and removed to Grove Hospital where he made a good recovery. It occurred in a cottage in the Station Yard, the boy had been attending the local school. There were no other cases in the district and as there were four other children in the house it was as stated, removed.

The next cases occurred on November 25th from a canal Wharf near Pitstone in the parish of Cheddington. The girl had been attending the school at Ivinghoe. There were no other children in the house and the parents decided to have the case isolated and treated at home, where she made a good recovery. The bedding was afterwards brought to Grove Hospital and stoved.

It should be mentioned that a boy aged 4 from Back Lane, Ivinghoe, when staying in London, was sent to the South Western Fever Hospital, suffering from scarlet fever, where he died.

ENTERIC FEVER.

On May 7th, a boy aged six was notified as suffering from enteric from Ivinghoe. He was removed to the Grove Hospital and treated. On the same day another boy aged six was notified from a different part of the village and also sent to hospital. On the 15th two girls were notified, aged 14 and 15. Both cases were removed to hospital and on the 18th and 19th two further male cases were notified, aged 3 and 31 respectively, and sent to hospital. They all made good recoveries.

The Sanitary Inspector and I went to the village and inspected all the milk sellers premises. We found that the cases were having milk from different supplies. It was suggested by one of the notifying doctors that a water cress bed was the cause. Subsequently the County Medical Officer came over and met the Sanitary Inspector and me, when we

inspected the water cress bed, which was cleaned out. Several samples of water were taken in the village and we found that there had been cases of obscure illness with feverish symptoms in the village a short time previously. One of the milk sellers had a case in the house, although the milk was nowhere near the patient. When the disease occurred we took the precaution of stopping the sale of milk and there were no cases traced to that house. A number of leaflets were issued by the Clerk of the Council requesting the villagers not to eat water cress and to boil all milk and water.

MEASLES.

A considerable number of cases of measles occurred all over the district. They were mostly of a mild character and no deaths occurred.

TUBERCULOSIS.

A case of phthisis occurred at Slapton in a man aged 34, contracted in the Army and subsequently treated at a hospital by the Army authorities and died.

Another case occurred at Dagnall. The parents did not wish the case, which was a young woman, to go to a sanatorium, and they had every facility for treating it at home.

A man aged 25 was notified from Wing, he had contracted the disease on service, and he was sent to the Berks and Bucks Sanatorium. A visitor from London, aged 17, was notified from Littleworth. It should be stated that this case had come into the country to recuperate and subsequently returned to London.

A boy aged 8 was notified from a cottage near the school at Pitstone, and was sent to a sanatorium and afterwards returned home apparently cured.

A married woman aged 34 came to Slapton suffering from general tuberculosis. They had to give up their house in another district. She died.

A girl aged 5 was notified as suffering from meningeal tuberculosis from Wing, where she died.

A case of a girl aged 7 years was notified as suffering from tuberculosis of the bronchial glands and was sent to the Berks and Bucks Sanatorium.

INFLUENZA.

During the past year influenza has not been nearly as serious as in the previous year, although there have been cases and four deaths occurred directly or indirectly from this disease.

One case of malaria occurred at Rowden. The man had been in the Army; and there was one case of erysipelas in an elderly man at Ivinghoe Aston.

A considerable number of cases of chicken pox occurred during the year in the district and an especially large number in the neighbourhood of Wing.

GROVE ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

During the year eight cases were treated at the Hospital, all making good recoveries. One case of scarlet fever came from Linslade. One of the blocks at the hospital has been re-roofed. The drains are disinfected frequently.

An ambulance is much needed.

WATER SUPPLY.

At Wing there is a public supply, the water being obtained from a deep well in the green sand at Linslade.

Cheddington also has a public supply. Apart from these two villages, most of the inhabitants get their water from wells.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

At Wing many of the houses have water closets, with water carriage system. The scavenging is done by a contractor for the District Council regularly twice a week. The filter beds are on the west side of the village and are working satisfactorily, the spare ground being used for growing mangolds.

The filtering medium has been reburnt and the beds recharged.

At Cheddington the sewage is treated by broad irrigation on four acres of ground, and the ground used for growing mangolds. In other villages the houses have pail closets which are regularly emptied and the contents dug into the ground.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are 7 registered slaughter houses, being 2 at Wing, 1 at Cheddington, 1 at Ivinghoe, 1 at Pitstone and 2 at Edlesborough.

CANAL BOATS.

No. of boats inspected	22
No. of boats registered to carry	81
No. of male adults on boats	24
No. of female adults on boats	19
No. of children on boats	27
Average per boat	2.05
No legal proceedings taken during the year.	

MILK SUPPLY.

There are 46 registered cowkeepers in the Rural District, representing about 1,100 cows.

The sheds are principally in the parishes of Soulbury, Wing and Stoke Hammond.

The milk goes chiefly to London and Aylesbury.

GOVERNMENT HOUSING SCHEME.

The sites of all the houses which it is proposed to build in the various parishes have been approved.

8 are to be built at Cheddington; at Ivinghoe (including Ivinghoe Aston) 20; Edlesborough (including Northall and Dagnall), 8; Wing, 18; Marsworth, 6; Pitstone, 6; Soulbury, 6 and Stoke Hammond, 8. There are 1,623 dwelling houses in the district, 1,445 of which are of the working class type, ranging from 6d. to 3s. 9d. per week rent.

Number of dwelling houses inspected under and for the purpose of the Act.....	423
Number of such dwelling houses which were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	32
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which representations were made to the Local Authority with a view to the making of closing orders	32

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were made by the Local authority	nil
Number of dwelling houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of closing orders	nil
Number of dwelling houses which after the making of closing orders were made fit for human habitation	nil

GENERAL.

Number of inspections	581
Complaints received	nil.
Nuisances detected without complaint	77
Notices served, informal	77
Nuisances abated (a) by person responsible	67
(b) by Council	nil.
Summonses taken out	nil.
Convictions	nil.

HOUSE NUISANCES.

Roofs repaired	nil.
Spouts cleaned and repaired	nil.
Pavements repaired	nil.
Overcrowding abated	nil.
Dirty houses cleansed	nil.
Other defects remedied	nil

DRAINS, W.C.'s, PRIVIES, ETC.

Total defects found	nil.
Drains cleansed, repaired, or ventilated	6
New drains laid	2
W.c.'s repaired	7
Privies to E.C.'s	4

WATER SUPPLY.

Houses supplied with water during the year (formerly without)	7
Samples taken for analysis	5
Certificates granted (Rural Districts only)	nil.
Certificates deferred (Rural Districts only)	nil.
Cisterns cleansed, repaired, etc.	nil.
Wells cleansed or repaired	1
Wells closed	1

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Number on Register	7
Number of inspections	40
Number of defects found	nil.
Number remedied	nil.

BAKEHOUSES.

Number on register	12
Number of inspections	48
Number of defects found	nil.
Number remedied	nil.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHEDS.

Number of Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk on Register	46
Number of Cowkeepers on Register	46
Number of Inspections	92
Number of defects found	14
Number remedied	14

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Number on Register	25
Number of Inspections	48
Number of defects found	nil.
Number remedied	nil.

VARIOUS.

Removal of animals improperly kept	nil.
Visits to infected houses	36
Houses disinfected	13
Other items	nil.

Your obedient servant,

PERCY STEDMAN.

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of whole District during 1919 & previous years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Uncor. No.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District. 8	of Residents not registered in the District. 9	Under One Year of Age		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births. 11		
												4	5	10	12	13
1	2	3			6	7						
1914	6050	101	102	16.8	58	9.5	4	15	3	29	69	11.4
1915	5802	81	84	14.4	85	14.6	5	20	5	60	100	17.2
1916	5428	107	107	18.1	90	16.5		11	7	65	101	18.9
1917	5270	91	87	14.8	63	11.9		14	3	34	77	14.6
1918	5814	85	83	14.2	93	17.9	3	20	7	84	110	21.1
1919	5513	83	85	14.8	59	10.7		14	2	23.5	73	13.2

Area of District in acres
(land and inland
water)

28,587.

Total population at all ages
Number of inhabited houses
Average number of persons per house6089
1496
4At Census,
1911.

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1919.

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases Notified.							Total cases notified in each locality.					Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					Wing & Mentmore	Ivinghoe, Cheddington, Dagnall, Edlesbo', Slapton.	Grove, Soulbury and Stoke.	Marsworth and Pitstone.			
		1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65						65 & upwards	
Small-pox													
Cholera													
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	2	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	2	...	2	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Typhus Fever ...													
Enteric Fever.....	6	1	3	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Relapsing Fever ...													
Continued Fever ...													
Puerperal Fever ...													
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.....													
Poliomyelitis													
Measles and German Measles													
Measles	4	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	6	...	1	2	3	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis.....	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	23	3	11	3	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

Isolation Hospital, Grove, Wing.

Berks and Bucks Sanatorium.

TABLE III.

WING RURAL DISTRICT.—Causes of, and Ages at Death during the year 1919.

Causes of Death.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District								
	All Ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards
All Causes { Certified Uncert.	73	1	1	2	2	4	6	21	36
Enteric Fever									
Small-pox									
Measles									
Scarlet Fever	1			1					
Whooping Cough									
Diphtheria and Croup ...									
Influenza	4							1	3
Erysipelas									
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	7					4	2		1
Tuberculous Meningitis	1				1				
Other Tuberculous Diseases	3						2	1	
Cancer, malignant Disease	8							5	3
Rheumatic Fever									
Meningitis									
Organic Heart Disease...	10							4	6
Bronchitis	3								3
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	1		1						
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	1							1	
Diarrhoea and Enteritis									
Appendicitis & Typhlitis									
Cirrhosis of Liver									
Alcoholism									
Nephritis and Bright's Disease									
Puerperal Fever... ..									
Other Accidents and Di- seases of Pregnancy and Parturition									
Congenital Debility and Malformation, in- cluding Premature Birth	1	1							
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	2						1	1	
Suicide	1							1	
Other Defined Diseases	30			1	1		1	7	20
Diseases ill-defined or unknown									
Accidents... ..									
Totals	78	1	1	2	2	4	6	21	36

Wing Rural District.—Infantile Mortality during the year 1919.
 Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various ages under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 week.	1—2 weeks.	2—3 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1—3 months.	3—6 months.	6—9 months.	9—12 months	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes { Certified Uncertified	I		I	2					2
{ Small-pox Chicken-pox Measles Scarlet Fever Whooping Cough Diphtheria : Croup									
Erysipelas									
{ Tuberculous Meningitis Abdominal Tuberculosis Other Tuberculous Diseases									
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)									
Convulsions	I			I					I
Laryngitis... ..									
Bronchitis									
Pneumonia (all forms) ...									
{ Diarrhoea Enteritis									
Gastritis									
Syphilis									
Rickets									
Suffocation, overlying ...									
Injury at Birth									
Atelectasis									
{ Congenital Malformations Premature Birth Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus			I						I
Violence									
Other Causes									
Totals	I		I	2					2

Nett Births in the Year—Legitimate 82. Illegitimate 3.
 Nett deaths in the Year—Legitimate Infants, 2. Illegitimate Infants, 0.